



Pawson Park Building—formerly a popular indoor skating rink in the summer. Photo by Chet Blomquist.

The 28-mile Branford Trail is a unique trail that borders a majority of the town's perimeter. The white circle blazed trail passes through the shoreline, wetlands, many town parks, north-erly woodlands, and many Branford Land Trust properties. The trail is separated into eight sections that begins and ends at a public road with space for parking. Every home in Branford is within 15-minutes walking time of a trail. The entire Branford trail is best walked in a counter-clockwise direction.

The Branford Trails Program exists due to the efforts of Chet Blomquist, a retired physical education teacher who felt the need to remain physically fit and socially inter-acted. A group formed that began walking pieces of open space identified by the Branford Land Trust. Many trails were on the town perimeter that Chet and his group felt could easily link together to create a town trail. Chet assisted in coordination with the Town, the Land Trust, and private land owners to link the trails to make the town trail a reality.

This 3.8 mile section of the Branford Trail features the Indian Neck area of Branford. This area is thought to have been a seasonal home to the Quinnipiac Indian tribe. The first part of this trip travels on roads adjacent to Pawson Park and starts facing the Branford Harbor on Riverside Terrace. At Linden Avenue turn left along the shoreline and take the stairs to the beach. If it's high tide—stay on the roads. At the end of Waverly Park Rd., enter the woods and follow the white blazes to end at Pine Orchard Road.



Design for the Logo and Patch by Ralph Fuller

"Walk around Branford" is a fitness and nature program presented twice a year (fall and spring). Participants walk all eight sections of the trail (each about 4 miles) over an eight week period. Upon the 28-mile completion, participants are awarded a "Walk the Branford Trails" patch. Part of the program includes presentations conducted right on the trail by guest speakers with environmental, natural science and educational backgrounds.

Directions and Parking:

The Indian Neck area of Branford can be reached via I-95 (Exit 53) to West Main/South Main/Montowese Street (Route 146). The park can be reached by taking Linden Avenue to Pawson Park Road. At the beginning of the trail there is limited on street parking.

Permitted Activities:

This trail follows public and private roads. When adjacent to private property please respect resident's privacy. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please pick up all animal waste.

For more information about this location, contact:

Town of Branford
Parks and Open Space Authority
(203) 488-8394, ext. 120

This project made possible through a grant from the National Recreational Trails Program, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.



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BRANFORD TRAIL:

INDIAN NECK

Branford, CT

